

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 06525 131610Z

63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 117202

R 131530Z AUG 76
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1860
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6525

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, IS, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET DROPOUT PROBLEM AND ISRAELI POLICY

REF: A. TEL AVIV 5490, B. GENEVA 6396

1. ALTHOUGH MISSION HAS HERETOFORE DIRECTED ITS COMMENTS TOWARD ADVERSE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF DROPOUT PROBLEM ON LIMITED RESOURCES OF U.S. REFUGEE PROGRAM (REF B), THE EXCHANGE COMMUNICATED IN REF A POSES BROADER POLICY CONSIDERATIONS ON WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT SOME THOUGHTS.

2. IT IS OBVIOUSLY MUCH TO BE HOPED THAT NAY POLICIES ADOPTED BY ISRAEL TO MEET DROPOUT SITUATION WILL NOT BE SUSCEPTIBLE OF INTERPRETATION IN ANY WAY AS INFRINGEMENTS ON BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR INSTANCE, ALTHOUGH ALTERNATIVE C (PARA 4, REF A), IF IMPLEMENTED, MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS SIMPLY A MEANS OF EXPEDITING JEWISH REFUGEES FROM THE USSR TO THEIR PREVIOUSLY PROCLAIMED DESTINATION, I.E., ISRAEL, IT COULD, IF RIGOROUSLY ADMINISTERED, ALSO BE INTERPRETED AS COERCION.

3. FROM OUR OBSERVATION, IT IS FURTHER DEBATABLE AT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 06525 131610Z

LEAST WHETHER ABBREVIATING THE STAY IN VIENNA WOULD,

IN FACT, REDUCE THE DROPOUT RATE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, EVEN BEFORE LEAVING THE USSR, THE REFUGEES HAVE A CLEAR CONCEPT OF THEIR INTENTIONS AND, SPECIFICALLY, WHETHER THEY WILL PROCEED TO ISRAEL OR TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THERE IS REPORTEDLY EXCELLENT FEED BACK FROM THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT THE USSR TO RELATIVES AND FREIDNDS REMAINING BEHIND, SO THAT THE LATTER HAVE DECIDED WHERE THEY WISH TO GO PRIOR TO THEIR ACTUAL DEPARTURE. (MISSOFF WAS TOLD DURING APRIL VISIT TO JAI PROCESSING POINT IN VIENNA THAT ARRIVING REFUGEES OFTEN PHONE BACK TO RELATIVES IN RUSSIA SAME DAY). THIS DECISION IS ANNOUNCED TO RECEIVING AGENCIES UPON ARRIVAL IN VIENNA, AND THE GROUP IS THEREUPON SEPARATED INTO ONE LOT PROCEEDING TO ISRAEL WITH JAI, AND THE OTHER GOING PRINCIPALLY TO ROME UNDER HIAS AUSPICES FOR PROCESSING TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THUS, IT IS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL THAT RUSHING REFUGEES THROUGH VIENNA WOULD SERVE TO DIMINSIH THE BREAK-OFF RATE TO ANY APPRECIABLE DEGREE.

4. IT IS ALSO OUT UNDERSTANDING THAT JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN THE US AND ELSEWHERE ARE VERY MUCH OF TWO MINDS ON THE SUBJECT OF FORCING RUSSION JEWISH EMIGRANTS TO PROCEED TO ISRAEL. QUESTION IS WHETHER THOSE WISHING TO SETTLE IN THE US OR OTHER COUNTRIES SHOULD BE DENIED OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. BASIC TO THIS, OF COURSE, IS PRINCIPLE OF RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AS SET FORTH IN HELSINKI ACCORDS.

5. MISSION, THEREFORE, CONSIDERS IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY TO RAISE WITH LEVANON THE MATTER OF SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDING POSSIBILITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, AS GOI AND ITS ADVISERS APPROACH PROBLEM OF MEANS TO LOWER DROPOUT RATE OF JEWISH REFUGEES FROM USSR. THIS MIGHT, IN OUR VIEW, RULE OUT RE COURSE TO PROCEDURE CONTEMPLATED AS ALTERNATIVE C IN REFTEL PARA 4. CATTO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, JEWS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, EMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA06525
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760312-0519
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760857/aaaabwyi.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV 5490, 76 GENEVA 6396
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET DROPOUT PROBLEM AND ISRAELI POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, IS, UR
To: STATE TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006